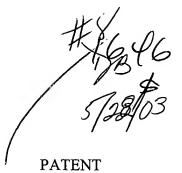


Attorney's Docket No. PP16166.003(35784/240745)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re:

Wolfe et al.

Confirmation No.: 5486

Appl No.:

10/010,448

November 7, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1646

Examiner:

Janet L. Andres

Filed: For:

STABILIZED INTERFERON COMPOSITIONS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED MAY 2 7 2003

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated March 19, 2003, in which the Examiner has required Applicant to elect a single species selected from interferons, HGH, interleukins, GMCSF, MCSF, β-glucocerebrosidase, thyrotropins, etanercept, monoclonal antibodies, factor VIIa, factor VIII, urokinase, asparginase, anistreplase, and alteplase, and indicates that the claims will be restricted to this species if no generic claims are found to be allowable. Applicant hereby elects interferons as the species to be prosecuted on the merits and expressly reserves the right to file divisional applications or take such other appropriate measures deemed necessary to protect the inventions in the remaining species. Claims 1-29 and 32-40 are directed to the elected species, while claims 30 and 31 are generic.

Should the Examiner have further questions or comments with respect to examination of this case, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned agent so that further examination of this application can be expedited.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required In re: Wolfe et al.

Appl No.: 10/010,448 Filed: November 7, 2001

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therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn L. Coulter Registration No. 45,889

CUSTOMER No. 00826 ALSTON-&-BIRD-LLP Bank of America Plaza 101 South Tryon Street, Suite 4000 Charlotte, NC 28280-4000 Tel Raleigh Office (919) 862-2200 Fax Raleigh Office (919) 862-2260 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandra, VA 22313-1450 on May 19, 2003.

Kathryn L. Coulter

Nora C. Martinez